

Chicago Tribune

**TOM SKILLING'S
FORECAST**



WEDNESDAY P.M.
High 72/Low 63



THURSDAY A.M.
High 65/Low 45

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 17, 2019



DOW JONES
26,449.74 | -2.92



NASDAQ
7,996.08 | -4.15



S&P 500
2,901.93 | -5.13

THE EVENING EDITION IS PUBLISHED DIGITALLY EVERY WEEKDAY AT 4 P.M. AND IS A DIGEST OF THE DAY'S BREAKING NEWS.

People on the banks of the River Seine take pictures of the burnt exterior of Notre-Dame Cathedral as crains and crews remove statues and beams on Wednesday in Paris.

DAN KITWOOD/GETTY

66 minutes

The critical timing that saved Notre Dame Cathedral and its relics. **Page 5**

LOLLAPALOOZA LINEUP RELEASED AND SINGLE-DAY TICKETS ON SALE **PAGE 2**

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Former head of Maryville Academy dies

Rev. Smyth removed from ministry after abuse allegations

Chicago Tribune

The Rev. John Smyth, the longtime head of Maryville Academy for troubled youths in Des Plaines who recently was removed from active ministry because of abuse allegations dating to his time at the academy, has died, a spokeswoman for the Archdiocese of Chicago said Wednesday.

Information on when and where Smyth died was not immediately released. He was 84. Smyth was head of Maryville Academy from 1970 until stepping down in 2003.

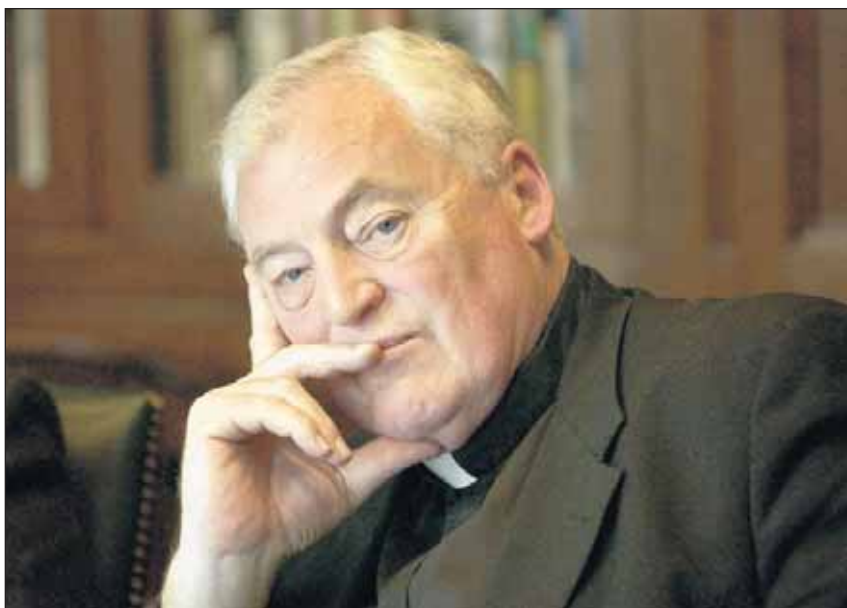
The accusations against him made public early this year date back to 2002 and 2003, when Maryville was in crisis. A 14-year-old girl hanged herself in a shower in early 2002, and a few months later police were called to quell a riot involving teen girls fighting with knives, bottles and other weapons.

The Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, which sent hundreds of wards of the state to Maryville, investigated and found what it said was rampant violence, poor oversight and inadequate treatment.

Smyth, a well-connected public figure and prodigious fundraiser, fought a decision in late 2002 by DCFS to stop placing children at the campus. But after months of criticism and pressure, Smyth agreed to step down in December 2003.

Information on the status of investigations into the allegations against Smyth was not immediately available.

Smyth was the second youngest of five children of Frances and Michael Smyth, Irish immigrants who settled



JAMES BRANAMAN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2003

The Rev. John Smyth was the former head of the Maryville Academy in Des Plaines.

on Chicago's North Side. He was a high school sports at DePaul Academy and attended the University of Notre Dame where he was captain of the basketball team. He was drafted by the St. Louis Hawks of the NBA but answered the calling of the priesthood.

He was assigned to Maryville in 1962 when the orphanage was struggling. In 1970, with Maryville losing more than \$400,000 a year, he was appointed superintendent of the institution by Cardinal John Cody and given a year to turn it around.

According to a Tribune story, Smyth began a fundraising campaign in which he reached out to members of the Chicago business community and his old Notre Dame connections. An annu-

al fundraiser called Chuckwagon Day was billed as the largest single-day fundraiser in Illinois, and in 2002 took in \$4 million.

Among the big-name supporters of Smyth and Maryville was Pete Townshend of the rock group The Who, who performed benefits for the institution. At a 1997 concert at House of Blues, Townshend presented Smyth with an oversize check representing the \$220,000 his benefit raised.

Four years after leaving Maryville, Smyth became president of Notre Dame College Prep in Niles, but he stepped down in 2014 after what he called a difference of opinion over the role of the Catholic high school's executive board.

Lollapalooza lineup

Aug. 1: The Strokes, the Chainsmokers, Hozier, Rufus du Sol, H.E.R., Gud Vibrations vs. Slugs Music, Lil Baby, King Princess, Fitz and the Tantrums, Fisher, Lauren Daigle, FKJ, Deorro, Saba, Normani, Hayley Kiyoko, Lennon Stella, Hobo Johnson & the Lovemakers, Jeremy Zucker, Cautious Clay, Ghostemane, Shallou, Clozee, Emily King, Gothboiclique, YBN Cordae, Svdden Death, Elephant, Ducky (Live), Half Alive, Killy, Max Frost, Beach Bunny, Harry Hudson, Cousin Stizz, Des Rocs, Win and Woo, Ama Lou, Willaris K, Evan Konrad, Bad Chil, Alexander 23, Jackie Foster.

Aug. 2: Childish Gambino, Tame Impala, Janelle Monae, 21 Savage, Death Cab for Cutie, Maggie Rogers, Alesso, NF, Snails, Bring Me the Horizon, Chevelle, Matoma, Whethan, Rich the Kid, Bishop Briggs, Party Favor, Japanese Breakfast, Idles, Conan Gray, Sigrid, Honne, Omar Apollo, Tierra Whack, Alec Benjamin, Boy Pablo, Said the Sky, Calboy, the Nude Party, Roy Blair, Picture This, Baynk, Tyla Yaweh, Yultron, Cray, Dreamers, Shaed, Nothing Nowhere, CharlesTheFirst, Shlump, Yoshi Flower, Upsahl, Tessa Violet, the New Respects, Against the Current.

Aug. 3: Twenty One Pilots, J Balvin, Lil Wayne, Gary Clark Jr., Tenacious D, RL Grime, 6lack, Gunna, Madeon, Gryffin, Judah & the Lion, Smino, AJR, Lil Skies, Boombbox Cartel, Loud Luxury, Chelsea Cutler, Yaeji, Bad Suns, Calpurnia, Pink Sweats, Jade Bird, Jonas Blue, Mondo Cozmo, Magic City Hippies, the Band Camino, Men I Trust, Fantastic Negrito, Bea Miller, Ruston Kelly, Slow Hollows, Crizzly, Whipped Cream, Houses, Sam Fender, Diablo, Role Model, Witt Lowry, Russo, Coi Leray, Age.Sex.Location, Wavedash, Lucas Dell'Abate, Lilly.

Aug. 4: Ariana Grande, Flume, Kacey Musgraves, Meek Mill, the Revivalists, Perry Farrell's Kind Heaven Orchestra, Louis the Child, Slash featuring Myles Kennedy and the Conspirators, San Hold, Sheek Wes, Rosalia, Mitski, J.I.D., Manic Focus, Denzel Curry, Lane 8, Joji, Sharon Van Etten, Francis and the Lights, Dean Lewis, Masego, Diesel (Shaquille O'Neal), (Sandy) Alex G, Still Woozy, Camelphat, Yung Gravy, Opiuo, G Flip, Ryan Beatty, Slenderbodies, Wilderado, Bayonne, GG Magree, Born Dirty, Arkells, Bulow, Malu Trevejo, Ilo Ilo, Tayla Parx, Illiterate Light, Yeek, Just Loud.

TOM SKILLING'S 3-DAY FORECAST

Wild, record rebound from snow to 70s: Just two days ago, the Chicago area was battling one of the heaviest late-season snow storms in its history, but on Tuesday afternoon, it was spring in full glory as temperatures surged into 70s. It was the city's fastest rebound to 70s following a significant snowfall on record, eradicating the old three-day record, more than a century ago in March, 1916. Rapid temperature fluctuations will continue Wednesday as highs reach the lower 70s late in the day following a chilly, showery morning with reading hovering near 40. Showers, thunderstorms and a turn to cooler weather will dominate the late-week period before sunny and warmer conditions arrive for the Easter/Passover weekend as temperatures climb back into the 70s. Showers and thunderstorms will return for the start of the work week as another weather system bears down on the Midwest.

Get the latest weather at chicagotribune.com



THURSDAY, APRIL 18



HIGH	LOW
63	42

Cloudy and seasonably mild with showery spells, especially in the morning. Winds turn northwest 10-20 mph.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19



HIGH	LOW
48	41

Good Friday brings cloudy, windy and sharply cooler weather. Gusty north winds 20-30mph. Scattered light showers possible.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20



HIGH	LOW
64	50

Sunshine returns as temperatures rebound into the middle 60s. Turning cooler near the lake in the afternoon. Diminishing winds.



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A bicyclist peddles east on West Cortland Street near Lincoln Yards in Chicago on April 8.

Lawsuit seeks to block public money for Lincoln Yards project

JOHN BYRNE

Painting the controversial Lincoln Yards property tax subsidy as the most egregious example of the city using public money to bolster wealthy developers at the expense of resource-starved minority neighborhoods, activists filed suit Wednesday to try to stop the funds from going to the North Side mega-development.

The lawsuit filed in Cook County Circuit Court by Grassroots Collaborative and Raise Your Hand strikes at the way Chicago mayors for decades have used tax-increment financing money. The proposed TIF package of up to \$1.3 billion for Lincoln Yards, which is set to cover 55 acres of prime North Side real estate between Lincoln Park and Bucktown, provided the groups with the high-profile target they think they need to force reforms.

Lawyer Aneel Chablani said the groups will ask the judge in the case to freeze spending on the Lincoln Yards development as the lawsuit proceeds.

And Amisha Patel, executive director of Grassroots Collaborative, said the project's location and scope make it a compelling test case.

"The area of Lincoln Yards is growing in value every single day without a TIF district in place," Patel said. "That means, installing the TIF district in that community means that dollars instead of being available for

schools, parks and libraries as those property values go up, instead are being captured and being handed back over to the developer. This is not OK. The strategy of the city of Chicago to prioritize our public dollars to give them to wealthy developers to make sure they move to wealthy neighborhoods is a complete misuse of the program."

Mayor Rahm Emanuel has long argued TIF money is needed for infrastructure improvements such as new roads, bridges and train stations in and out of the parcel around Goose Island to accommodate the massive traffic increase that will come with Sterling Bay's planned 14.5 million square feet of office, residential, hotel, restaurant, retail and entertainment space on the formerly industrial land along the Chicago River. The City Council approved the tax package last week, after Mayor-elect Lori Lightfoot entered the fray and got developer Sterling Bay to agree to more construction contracts for minority- and women-owned businesses.

Outgoing Ald. Patrick O'Connor, 40th, shepherded the Lincoln Yards TIF through the council Finance Committee. He said Wednesday that the project needs the money injection or else the needed improvements won't happen. "We don't have that much money lying around to do this infrastructure, so if they're waiting for us to do it, they'll be waiting an awful long time,"

he said.

And he raised the specter of the successful court fight by lakefront activists to stop Star Wars creator George Lucas from building a museum on a Soldier Field parking lot as an example of a good project getting waylaid by a lawsuit. "If they want to go in and stop it, by all means. I mean, we stopped the Lucas museum, and we still have a really nice parking lot out on the lake, so why wouldn't you want to stop this?" he said.

In a TIF district like the one the city created to encompass the Lincoln Yards project, property taxes collected by taxing bodies like Chicago Public Schools and City Hall are frozen for up to 23 years. As the property value increases and the amount of taxes paid goes up, that increment between the frozen amount and the higher tax bills instead gets funneled back into projects within the district.

The lawsuit argues the Lincoln Yards TIF violates state law because the property isn't blighted and because development would occur there without such an infusion of public tax revenue. And it says the deal is a violation of state civil rights laws because it worsens racial inequity in the city. With Lightfoot promising to take a hard look at the racial impact of TIF spending, the lawsuit could help set new standards for how the money gets doled out.

Westlake Hospital offered to Melrose Park by owners

LISA SCHENCKER

The Los Angeles-based owner of Westlake Hospital is now offering to give the hospital to the Village of Melrose Park, following days of court battles over its future.

The mayor of Melrose Park, however, isn't exactly jumping at the offer.

"If Melrose Park truly values Westlake Hospital and is so sure it can do a better job of either running this antiquated facility or finding a buyer, they should take us up on this offer," Pipeline said in a statement Wednesday. Pipeline said it would give the hospital to Melrose Park at no cost.

But Melrose Park Mayor Ron Serpico called it "another attempt for them to deflect their responsibility," in a statement.

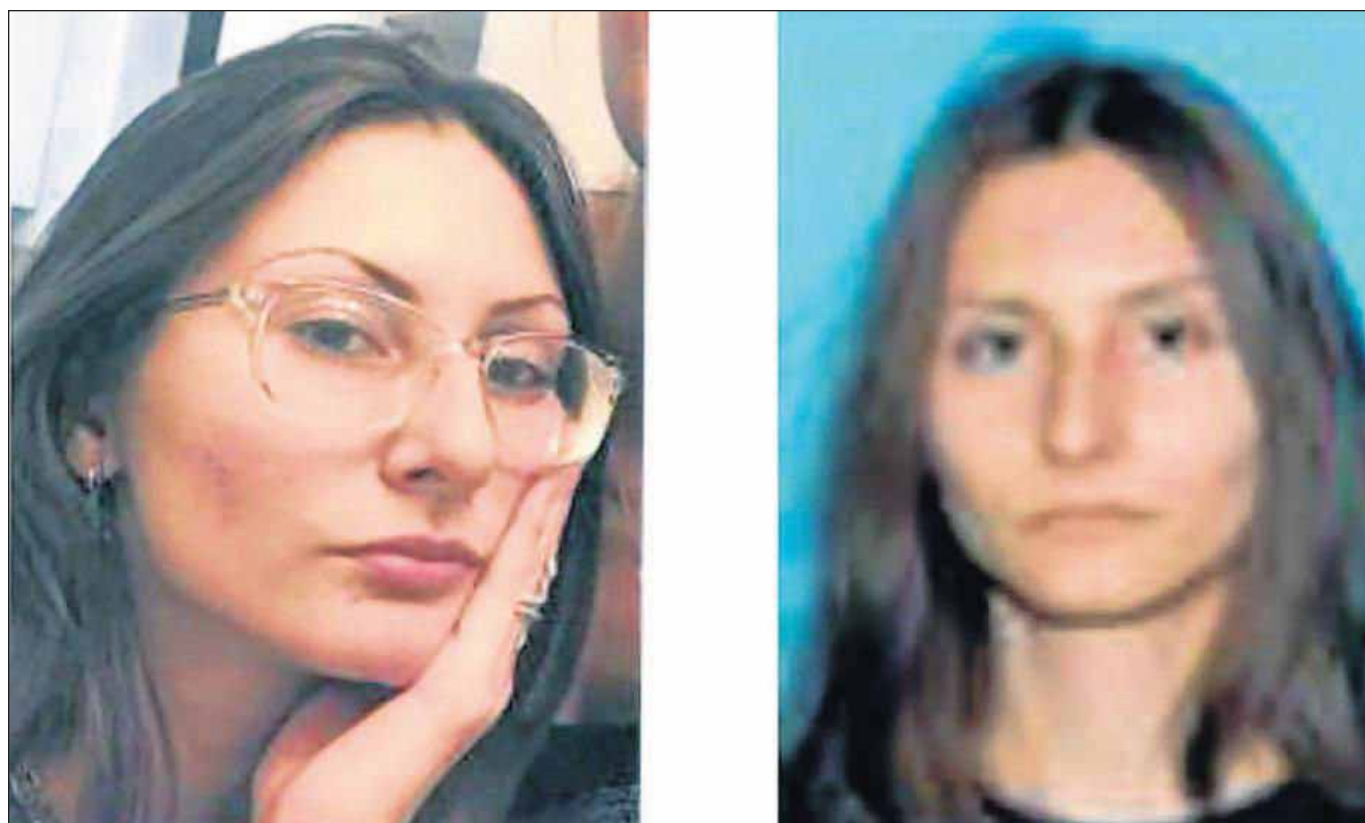
"The Village has never claimed the expertise to run a hospital and Pipeline's comments expose their continued dedication to misinformation and deception," Serpico said. Andrew Mack, a spokesman for the mayor, said the village will look at the offer if Pipeline provides terms and its financial documents.

The offer is the latest twist in an ongoing fight over the hospital's future. Pipeline bought Westlake, West Suburban Medical Center in Oak Park and Louis A. Weiss Memorial Hospital in Chicago, for \$70 million in January, saying it planned to save the hospitals. Just weeks after that purchase, however, Pipeline said it would close Westlake by July because financial losses exceeded projections.

Last week, however, Pipeline announced it would begin winding down operations at the hospital early, citing low staffing levels that it said put patient safety at risk. The Village of Melrose Park won a temporary restraining order to keep Pipeline from cutting services further. On Tuesday, a Cook County Circuit Court judge found Pipeline in contempt of court, saying it had to restore most of the services, including obstetrics and intensive care, at Westlake or pay \$200,000 a day for each day out of compliance.

Melrose Park has a pending lawsuit against Pipeline, accusing its leaders of lying about their intention to close the hospital so as not to face opposition during the purchase.

The state Health Facilities and Services Review Board is scheduled to consider Pipeline's application to close the hospital April 30. The board can't legally force Pipeline to keep the hospital open, but the board can defer the application because of the pending litigation.



GETTY IMAGES

This handout combo photo shows 18 year-old suspect Sol Pais, who allegedly made threats against schools on April 16.

Woman feared as Columbine copycat found dead by FBI

BY KATHLEEN FOODY
AND COLLEEN SLEVIN
Associated Press

A young Florida woman who authorities say was so “infatuated” with the Columbine school shooting they feared she was planning an attack in Colorado just days ahead of the 20th anniversary was found dead Wednesday in an apparent suicide after a nearly 24-hour manhunt.

Jefferson County Sheriff Jeff Shrader said 18-year-old Sol Pais was discovered by the FBI with what appeared to be a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

The manhunt had led to the closing of Denver-area schools as a precaution, with classes and extracurricular activities canceled for a half-million students.

During the urgent search, the FBI said Pais was obsessed with the 1999 mass shooting at Columbine High School and made threats ahead of Saturday’s anniversary of the attack that killed 13 people. The FBI described her as “extremely dangerous.”

The Miami Beach high school student

flew to Colorado on Monday night and bought a pump-action shotgun and ammunition from a gun shop in Littleton, not far from Columbine, authorities said.

“We’re used to threats, frankly, at Columbine,” John McDonald, executive director of security for the Jefferson County school system, said when the manhunt was over. “This one felt different. It was different. It certainly had our attention.”

Authorities gave no immediate details on where Pais was found, but FBI agents had focused the search around the base of Mount Evans, a popular recreation area about 60 miles southwest of Denver.

McDonald described her trip as a “pilgrimage” to Columbine and cited her purchase of the shotgun as one reason officials took her as a serious threat.

“Those two things combined with her fascination of Columbine — that’s pretty clear and convincing evidence that she was a threat to the school,” he said.

Colorado Gov. Jared Polis said after receiving word that the hunt was over that he and all Colorado parents are “hugging their children a little tighter.”

Authorities said Pais was last seen not far from Columbine — in the Jefferson County foothills outside Denver — in a black T-shirt, camouflage pants and black boots. Police were instructed to detain her for a mental health evaluation.

In Pais’ hometown of Surfside, Florida, Police Chief Julio Yero asked that the family be given “privacy and a little time to grieve.”

“This family contributed greatly to this investigation from the very onset. They provided valuable information that led us to Colorado and a lot of things that assisted in preventing maybe more loss of life,” he said.

Pais’ parents last saw her on Sunday and reported her missing to Florida authorities on Monday night, Surfside police said.

Authorities said her threats were not specific to any school. But Columbine and more than 20 other schools outside Denver reacted by locking their doors for nearly three hours Tuesday afternoon, and some canceled evening activities or moved them inside.

Shared electric scooters surge in popularity

BY CATHY BUSSEWITZ
Associated Press

Electric scooters are overtaking station-based bicycles as the most popular form of shared transportation outside transit and cars in the U.S.

Riders took 38.5 million trips on shared electric scooters in 2018, eclipsing the 36.5 million trips on shared, docked bicycles, according to a report released Wednesday by the National Association of City Transportation Officials.

This as scooter companies face challenges from every direction, including vandalism, theft, rider injuries, intense competition and aggressive regulations in cities across the country.

Yet the scooter industry persists, and venture capitalists, ride-hailing companies and traditional auto manufacturers continue to pour millions into the fledgling companies.

Companies are jockeying for strategic position in the so-called micromobility revolution, where consumers are embracing shared scooters and bikes for short trips and exploring alternatives to car ownership buoyed by the ubiquity of smartphones.

Riders took 84 million trips on micromobility services such as shared scooters and bikes in 2018, more than double the number from the year before.

Scooter and bike riders typically use an app to find one nearby and pay a few dollars to ride for a set period of time, paying within the smartphone app using a credit card. Some shared mobility services, such as Lyft-owned Citi Bike in New York City, offer monthly or annual memberships for riders.



PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/AP

Bird scooters are parked besides a bike sharing docking station in downtown Washington in 2018.

Breaking down the critical 66 minutes that saved Notre Dame and its relics

BY LORI HINNANT
Associated Press

Fueled by a lattice of centuries-old timbers, the fire moved hungrily across Notre Dame's rooftop toward the cathedral's iconic spire. It belched yellow smoke, spitting out gritty particles of wood, stone, lead and iron and wanted more. Far below, their vision obscured by fumes and tears, firefighters, priests and municipal workers passed treasures hand-to-hand, hoping the speed of desperation could outrun the flames.

They had 66 minutes.

6:20 p.m.

The first alarm sounded, silencing the priest and a few hundred worshippers and tourists inside.

"Everyone was immobilized by shock for maybe a minute," said Johann Vexo, who was in the organ loft for Monday Mass. Shock, but no panic. The rear doors opened and within a few minutes, the cathedral was empty, he told Ouest-France newspaper.

For twenty-three minutes, it seemed like a false alarm.

6:43 p.m.

Then a second smoke detector went off and the fire showed its face, flickering in the wooden timbers and visible to anyone who happened to look north from Paris' Left Bank.

The first firetrucks lumbered through rush-hour traffic, blasting their two-tone sirens at full volume to reach the island that is the historic and geographic heart of Paris. For that first half-hour, it looked like the fire couldn't possibly leave more than a small age mark on the nearly 900-year-old building — more akin to the inevitable wear on stone's rough edges than the fury of the French Revolution that left it in ruins for decades.

Across the Seine in City Hall, Mayor Anne Hidalgo glanced out the window during an evening meeting to see a yellow cloud blotting out the sky. She rushed to the island.

"I came here and felt powerless as the flames overtook the cathedral," she said Tuesday.

Bridge after bridge along the Seine filled with somber onlookers, all facing the cathedral built for the ages. They dotted the stone walkways that line the river. They wept as flames overtook the rooftop spire.

Below it, nestled deep in the cathedral, was the treasure chest, keeper of Notre



GIGARAMA.RU/AP

An image made available by Gigarama.ru shows the fire damage to Notre Dame cathedral in Paris on Tuesday.

Dame's most sacred relics.

Firefighters cracked the chest open, pulling out the Crown of Thorns revered as the one worn by Jesus Christ at his crucifixion. Made of rushes wrapped into a wreath and tied with gold filament, it had been kept under glass since 1896. The tunic of St. Louis, believed to have belonged to King Louis IX, came out of the chest along with fragments of the cross and a nail, said Patrick Chauvet, rector of Notre Dame Cathedral.

The relics were safe.

Then came the artwork.

"We had to get them, in the smoke, as debris was falling to protect them," Gen. Jean-Claude Gallet of the fire brigade told BFM television.

7:49 p.m.

The 19th-century spire that was the architectural masterpiece of Eugène Emmanuel Viollet-le-Duc and his post-Revolutionary restoration broke apart and fell through the nave. The bronze weathercock tumbled, taking with it three relics sealed inside in 1935.

It had been 66 minutes since the first

flames were spotted.

The sky above the cathedral flamed orange, and the fire lurched toward Notre Dame's iconic towers, then slipped inside.

As darkness fell, 20 firefighters climbed inside the two towers "at great risk to their lives, to attack the fire from the inside and save the building," said Laurent Nunez, deputy interior minister.

The spire was lost. Could Notre Dame itself be saved? From inside and out, firefighters fought the battle of their lives — a battle for the ages.

9:49 p.m.

Macron says Notre Dame could be rebuilt within 5 years as investigation begins into devastating fire

Nunez voiced the fear that haunted Paris and beyond. The smell of smoke had long since reached beyond the city center, permeating homes and apartments miles away. Sirens wailed ceaselessly. Hundreds of firefighters were doing their utmost. And, Nunez said, no one knew whether it would be enough.

The 20 firefighters struggled on in the towers. Red-hot embers floated down from

the glowing hole where the spire once stood, settling on the blackened marble floor and the pile of debris that was all that was left of the spire. It had been "a masterwork of Viollet-le-Duc" and a tribute to what restoration could achieve, said Kevin Murphy, an expert on historical restoration from Vanderbilt University. It was gone, as were the roof's irreplaceable ancient wooden beams, cut from trees that were alive a millennium ago.

11:23 p.m.

The fire chief said the rest of the structure, including the cathedral's twin bell towers, had been saved. It had been within 30 minutes of collapse.

It took 10 more hours for the last flames to be put out. The spire's bronze rooster, long a symbol of France, was found Tuesday, deformed by the heat but recognizable nonetheless.

"Beyond emotion, beyond words, beyond tears," Christophe Castaner, France's interior minister, said Tuesday as he visited the cathedral, "What I want to express is the pride of the men and women who committed to saving Notre Dame."

CELEBRITIES

Tribune news services



DANNY MOLOSHOK/INVISION

Actress Demi Moore's memoir, "Inside Out," is scheduled for release in September.

Moore memoir said to be 'deeply candid'

Nine years after her book deal was first announced, Demi Moore is ready to release a memoir her publisher calls "deeply candid and insightful."

HarperCollins announced "Inside Out" is scheduled for a September release, and said Moore is writing openly about everything from her "tumultuous relationship" with her mother, from whom she was long estranged, to her three marriages, among them to Bruce Willis and Ashton Kutcher.

"Throughout her rise to fame and during some of the most pivotal moments of her life, Moore battled addiction, body image issues, and childhood trauma that would follow her for years — all while juggling a skyrocketing career, celebrity status, and raising a family," the publisher said. " 'Inside Out' is a story of survival, success, and surrender — as well as resilience: a wrenchingly honest portrayal of one woman's at once ordinary and iconic life."

Moore, 56, was a high school dropout who became a television star in her early 20s on the daytime soap opera "General Hospital" and later starred in such hit films as "St. Elmo's Fire," "Ghost" and "A Few Good Men." She is also a longtime activist for children's rights and is the co-founder of Thorn, a nonprofit which combats child sex trafficking.

The deal for her memoir, reportedly worth seven figures, was announced in 2010, when she and Kutcher were still together. Moore announced in 2011 that she was ending the marriage and they divorced two years later.

— Associated Press



CHRIS PIZZELLO/INVISION

Bey surprise: Beyoncé has surprised her fans by releasing a soundtrack to her Netflix documentary "Homecoming." The 37-year-old superstar debuted "Homecoming: The Live Album" Wednesday, the same day a Netflix documentary exploring her historic performances at the 2018 Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival was released. She was the first black woman to headline the event in which she paid tribute to America's historically black colleges.

Dem donors: Celebrities lined up to give money — and a dash of star power — to their favorite Democratic presidential candidates. Last month, California Sen. Kamala Harris was feted at the home of director J.J. Abrams and his wife, Katie McGrath. Among the attendees was TV hitmaker Shonda Rhimes. Harris also has received money from Ben Affleck, Eva Longoria, Quincy Jones and Jon Hamm. In Beto O'Rourke's camp are Willie Nelson, Bob Odenkirk, Richard Linklater, Cecily Strong and Anna Wintour. Danny DeVito, Susan Sarandon and Norah Jones gave to Bernie Sanders. And up-and-comer Pete Buttigieg has received donations from actors Bradley Whitford and Ryan Reynolds.

April 18 birthdays: Actor Robert Hooks is 82. Actress Hayley Mills is 73. Actor Rick Moranis is 66. Actress Jane Leeves is 58. Talk show host Conan O'Brien is 56. Actor Eric McCormack is 56. Actor David Tennant is 48. TV personality Kourtney Kardashian is 40. Actress America Ferrera is 35. Actor Tom Hughes is 34. Actress Britt Robertson is 29. Actress Chloe Bennet is 27. Singer Nathan Sykes is 26.

TV REVIEW

'Bless This Mess' is 'Green Acres' in the age of Pinterest

By ROBERT LLOYD

Los Angeles Times

"Bless This Mess," which began its six-episode run Tuesday on ABC, finds Lake Bell and Dax Shepard as Rio and Mike, leaving New York City for the complicated simplicity of rural Nebraska. They are clueless cosmopolitans, ready to trade city life for farm living, without having given the matter much thought.

"I'm a Midwesterner at heart," says Mike to Rio. "I've got farming in my blood. You've seen me in Whole Foods: I always walk straight up to the right heirloom tomato, I know the best one, I grab it."

"I mean, you're from the suburbs of St. Louis," says Rio, suppressing her skepticism, "but I understand what you're talking about."

The series was created by Bell and Elizabeth Meriwether ("New Girl"). Only the pilot was available to review, but it is fully formed and funny, a dry contemporary comedy built on an old foundation.

Mike and Rio have been married a year — a year in which they claim to have had "no fights." That, obviously, will change.

Mike, a music journalist, has inherited from his great aunt the farm where he spent what he recalls as idyllic childhood summers. Rio, a therapist, believes, on the basis of an old photograph, that she will soon be living "in a Pinterest page."

Must I tell you that the property they find, once they arrive to the accompaniment of Canned Heat's cheery "Goin' Up the Country," is something short of pinworthy?

Viewers of a certain age may detect in the premise certain similarities to "Green Acres," the great 1960s sitcom in which



JOHN FLEENOR/ABC

Dax Shepard and Lake Bell play city folks who retreat to the country in ABC's "Bless This Mess."

Eddie Albert and Eva Gabor, as Lisa and Oliver Douglas, leave Manhattan's Park Avenue for the whimsical hamlet of Hooterville.

Just as the Douglasses of "Green Acres" inherited a hired hand, Mike and Rio get Rudy (Ed Begley Jr.), who lives in their barn and sometimes uses their bathroom. Rudy has "a lot of sexual chemistry" with Constance (Pam Grier), who in addition to running the local hardware store, is "the sheriff too, and I run the local theater, and we just did a production of 'Les Mis' and I played a French ho." She is also a Voice of Wisdom.

Though "Bless This Mess" mocks the pretensions of (not exactly) young urban professionals going country — they have come to Nebraska toting biscotti, unsweetened ginger beer and ashwagandha tea — this is not the Red State Comedy networks fretted they'd forgotten to make in the wake of the 2016 election. If the pilot is anything to go by, these characters will exist outside current events; clashes will be cultural or a matter of sense versus nonsense.

Even the neighbors Beau (David Koechner) and Kay

(Lennon Parham) and their fractionally oddball son Jacob (JT Neal), who want to buy Mike and Rio's place and turn it into "a meat locker," are no worse than ironically mocking of the newcomers. And, of course, they have a right to be: "What do you mean you're farmers, just all of a sudden?" says Beau. "We've been doing this all our lives. You don't just announce one day you're a farmer. I mean, my wife's a super-model!"

"I'm Christie Brinkley!" says Kay.

To the extent that Mike and Rio patronize their neighbors, it's not that they look down on them but that they invest them with magical qualities. Where the Nebraskans just live their lives, Mike and Rio compulsively narrate theirs, to themselves and each other, because they don't know who they are yet.

This makes them likable; they're confused but sincere. Bell shuffles facial expressions the way a magician riffles cards. Shepard pulls off a nice mix of leading man and dope; Preston Sturges could have put him to work.

WATCH THIS: WEDNESDAY



Hale Appleman

“The Magicians” (8 p.m., Syfy): Season 4 of this sophisticated and sexy adult fantasy series has been pretty off the chain, even by its own high standards for unpredictability, with both Hale Appleman and Arjun Gupta playing double roles. The former appears as both fan favorite Eliot Waugh and a homicidal monster who has possessed Eliot’s body, while the latter has portrayed two different iterations of Penny Adiyodi, one alive, one dead.

“Riverdale” (7 p.m., CW): Jughead and FP (Cole Sprouse, Skeet Ulrich) launch a father-son investigation to find the person responsible after a tainted batch of fizzle rocks makes its way through Riverdale in the new “Chapter Fifty-Three: Jawbreaker.” Archie (K.J. Apa), meanwhile, quickly realizes he may be in over his head after asking Veronica (Camila Mendes) to help get him into an upcoming boxing tournament.

“Pretty Little Liars: The Perfectionists” (7 p.m., FREE): Mona (Janel Parrish) communicates with a mysterious stranger who promises to provide insights into the murder of Nolan in the new episode “The Patchwork Girl.” Elsewhere, Dana Booker’s (Klea Scott) ongoing investigation proves distracting to Dylan (Eli Brown) as he struggles to prepare for an important audition. Meanwhile, a scheme by the Perfectionists to clear their names ends in tragedy.

“The Real Housewives of New York City” (8 p.m., 10:30 p.m., Bravo): The ladies squeeze in one last wild night as their Berkshires weekend winds down in the new episode “It’s Kind of a Phone-y Story.” Tinsley opens up about the death of her alcoholic father during a conversation with Luann, and Bethenny tells Dorinda about getting a sign from Dennis.

“In Search of Monsters” (8 p.m., 11 p.m., TRAVEL): In the new episode “Mothman,” a team of experts and alleged eyewitnesses pool their knowledge as they seek some answers about this mysterious creature, a red-eyed phantom that is capable of soaring and whose appearances often are viewed as harbingers of a looming disaster.

“What We Do in the Shadows” (9 p.m., 10:04 p.m., 1:05 a.m., FX): Series co-creator Jemaine Clement, who also starred in the original movie that inspired this series spinoff, directed the new episode “Manhattan Night Club,” which finds Laszlo, Nadja (Matt Berry, Natasia Demetriou) and the rest of the Staten Island vampires venturing into the beating heart of the Big Apple.

TALK SHOWS

“Conan” (10 p.m. 11:30 p.m., TBS): Comic Jim Jefferies.*
“The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon” (10:34 p.m., NBC): Actress Kate Beckinsale; actor Ralph Macchio; author Rudy Francisco.*
“The Late Show With Stephen Colbert” (10:35 p.m., CBS): Actor James Spader; journalists Anna Palmer and Jake Sherman; The Lumineers perform.*
“Jimmy Kimmel Live” (10:35 p.m., ABC): Actress Gina Rodriguez; actor Isaac Hempstead Wright; Rüfüs Du Sol performs.*

* Subject to change

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WEDNESDAY EVENING, APR. 17

WEDNESDAY EVENING, APR. 17							MOVIES			
		PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	
BROADCAST	CBS	2	Survivor: "Blood of a Blindside." (N) © HD		The Amazing Race (Season Premiere) (N) © HD		SEAL Team: "Payback." (N) © HD		News (N) ♦	
	NBC	5	Chicago Med: "Can't Unring That Bell." ©		Chicago Fire: "It Wasn't About Hockey." ©		Chicago P.D.: "Ties That Bind." © HD		NBC 5 News (N) ♦	
	ABC	7	The Goldbergs HD	Schooled: "I, Mellor."	Modern Family	(8:31) Single Parents	Whiskey Cavalier (N) © HD		News at 10pm (N) ♦	
	WGN	9	blackish: "Dr. Hell No."	blackish © HD	Last Man Standing ©	Last Man Standing ©	WGN News at Nine (N) (Live) © HD		WGN News at Ten (N)	
	Antenna	9.2	Alice ©		Alice: "Pilot."		B. Miller		3's Comp.	
	This TV	9.3	♦ Rev.-Pink		The Return of the Pink Panther (G,'75) ★★		Peter Sellers. ©		Pink Pnthr ♦	
	PBS	11	Chicago Tonight (N)			Nature: "Big Birds Can't Fly." © HD		NOVA: "Secrets of Noah's Ark." © HD		Breakthrough (Series Premiere) (N)
	The U	26.1	7 Eyewitness News (N)			The Game	Engagement	Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Seinfeld ©
	MeTV	26.3	Andy Griffith			Gomer Pyle	WKRP Cincinnati	Hogan Hero	Hogan Hero	C. Burnett
	H&I	26.4	Star Trek ©			Star Trek: Next		Star Trek: Deep Space 9		Star Trek ♦
	Bounce	26.5	The Game	The Game		Lethal Weapon 3 (R,'92) ★★ Mel Gibson, Danny Glover.				
	FOX	32	Empire (N) © HD			Star: "Lean on Me." (N) © HD		Fox 32 News at Nine (N)		Modern Family ©
	Ion	38	Blue Bloods © HD			Blue Bloods © HD		Blue Bloods: "Framed."		Blue Blood ♦
TeleM	44	♦ Exatlón EE. UU. (N)			Betty en NY (N) ©		La reina del sur		Chicago (N)	
CW	50	Riverdale (N) © HD			Jane The Virgin (N) ©		Dateline © HD		Chicago ♦	
UniMas	60	Tres Milagros HD			Atrapada HD		Renta	Renta	Sebastian	
WJYS	62	Salem Baptist Church			Joyce Meyer	Robison	Coach's Cor.		Monument	
Univ	66	Jesús			Doña Flor y sus dos		Por amar sin ley		Noticias (N)	
CABLE	AE	Zombie House Flipping			Zombie Flip (N)		Tiny House Nation (N) ©		Zombie ♦	
	AMC	The Hangover Part III (R,'13) ★★ Bradley Cooper. ©				(9:05) Lara Croft: Tomb Raider ★★ ♦				
	ANIM	Lone Star Law: Uncuffed: "The Oyster Ordeal." (N) ©				Lone Star Law ©				
	BBCA	Men in Black (PG-13,'97) ★★ Tommy Lee Jones. ©				Men in Black II (PG-13,'02) ★★ © ♦				
	BET	♦ Blue Streak	Are We Done Yet? (PG,'07) ★ Ice Cube, Nia Long.				Martin ©			
	BIGTEN	University	BIG Show	BIG Show	BIG Show	College Football ♦				
	BRAVO	Housewives/NYC			Housewives/NYC (N)			Housewives-Atlanta		Watch (N)
	CLTV	News at 7	News (N)		News at 8	News (N)		SportsFeed ©	Politics	
	CNBC	Deal or No Deal ©			Deal or No Deal ©		Deal or No Deal ©		Jay Leno's ♦	
	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)			Cuomo Prime Time (N)		CNN Tonight (N)		Tonight (N) ♦	
	COM	South Park	South Park		South Park	South Park		South Park	Daily ♦	
	DISC	Expedition Unknown (N)			Expedition Unknown (N)		Mummies Unwrapped (N)		Expedition ♦	
	DISN	Sydney-Max	Coop	Jessie ©	Jessie ©	Sydney-Max	Coop	Andi Mack		
	E!	Botched ©		Botched ©		Botched ©		Busy (N)		
	ESPN	♦ MLB Baseball: Red Sox at Yankees (N)			SportsCenter (N) (Live) ©		SportCtr (N)			
	ESPN2	♦ College Softball (N)			30 for 30 A look at the life and career of Junior Seau.				Hey Rook.	
	FNC	Tucker Carlson (N)			Hannity (N) ©		The Ingraham Angle (N)		Fox News	
	FOOD	Guy's Grocery Games			Guy's Grocery Games (N)		Guy's Grocery Games		Grocery ♦	
	FREE	Pretty Little Liars (N)			(8:01) Jumanji (PG,'95) ★★		Robin Williams. ©		700 Club ♦	
	FX	♦ (6:30) Assassin's Creed (PG-13,'16) ★★ ©					Shadows (N) What We Do		What We Do	
	HALL	Once Upon a Prince (NR,'18) Megan Park. ©					Appetite for Love (NR,'16) © ♦			
	HGTV	Property Brothers ©			Buying and Selling (N)		Hunters (N)	Hunt Intl (N)	Property ♦	
	HIST	Forged in Fire ©			Forged in Fire (N)		Forged in Fire (N)		Forged ♦	
	HLN	Forensic	Forensic		Forensic	Forensic		Forensic	Forensic	
	IFC	♦ (6:45) The Sandlot (PG,'93) ★★ Thomas Guiry. ©					Brockmire	The Sandlot ('93) ★★ © ♦		
	LIFE	Celebrity Wife Swap ©			Celebrity Wife Swap ©		Celebrity Wife Swap ©		Wife Swap ♦	
	MSNBC	All In With Chris Hayes			Rachel Maddow Show		The Last Word (N)		11th Hour (N)	
	MTV	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.		The Challenge (N) ©		Double Shot at Love		Dbl Shot ♦	
	NBCSCH	♦ (6) MLB Baseball: Chicago Cubs at Miami Marlins. (N)					Postgame	All Access	Baseball ♦	
	NICK	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	The Office		The Office	Friends ♦	
	Ovation	♦ (6) The Karate Kid (PG,'84) ★★ Ralph Macchio.					The Karate Kid Part II (PG,'86) ★★ ♦			
	OWN	Iyanla, Fix My Life ©			Iyanla, Fix My Life ©		Iyanla, Fix My Life ©		Iyanla ♦	
	OXY	NCIS: Los Angeles			NCIS: Los Angeles		NCIS: Los Angeles		Chicago ♦	
	PARMT	The Bourne Ultimatum (PG-13,'07) ★★ Matt Damon. ©					The Bourne Ultimatum ♦			
	SYFY	♦ (6) Fast & Furious ★★ ©					The Magicians (Season Finale) (N) ©		Happy!: "Blitzkrieg!!!" (N)	Ender ♦
	TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang		Big Bang	Big Bang		Conan (N) ©	Conan (N)	
TCM	The Thin Man (NR,'34) ★★ ★★ ©				(8:45) A Guy Named Joe (NR,'43) ★★ © ♦					
TLC	My 600-Lb. Life: "LaShanta's Story." (N)					Dr. Pimple Popper (N) ©		My 600-Lb ♦		
TLN	Camp Meeting			Diane	The Three		Life Today	Exalted	Humanit ♦	
TNT	♦ NBA Basketball (N Subject to Blackout)					NBA Basketball (N Subject to Blackout) ♦				
TOON	Samur. Jack	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy			
TRAV	Mysteries-Museum (N)		In Search of Monsters (N)		Paranormal Ca. (N)		Paranorm. ♦			
TVL	Raymond	Raymond		Raymond	Two Men	Two Men		King		
USA	NHL Hockey: Nashville Predators at Dallas Stars. (N) (Live) ©					Law-SVU ♦				
VH1	Black Ink Crew ©			Black Ink Crew (N) ©		Black Ink Crew ©		Hip Hop ♦		
WE	♦ (6) Mrs. Doubtfire (PG,'93) ★★ Robin Williams. ©					(8:59) Mrs. Doubtfire (PG,'93) ★★ ♦				
WGN America	♦ Sleeping With the Enemy					Gone: "Romans." (N) ©		Sleeping With the Enemy (R,'91) ★★ ♦		
PREMIUM	HBO	The First Purge (R,'18) ★★ Y'lan Noel.			(8:45) Game of Thrones		(9:45) Barry	Leaving ♦		
	HBO2	Adnan Syed			(8:10) The Case Against Adnan Syed		(9:20) Veep	Ocean's 8 ♦		
	MAX	Black Widow (R,'87) ★★ Debra Winger.			(8:45) Cat People (R,'82) ★★		Nastassia Kinski. ♦			
	SHO	♦ (6:15) Groundhog Day			The Chi ©		Stripes (R,'81) ★★ Bill Murray. ♦			
	STARZ	♦ Clear and Present Danger			(8:05) Soul Surfer (PG,'11) ★★ AnnaSophia Robb. ©		Venom ★★ ♦			
	STZENC	♦ (5:51) Jurassic Park ★★			The Lost World: Jurassic Park (PG-13,'97) ★★		Jurassic ♦			

4 baseball questions to ponder as season hits full swing



PAUL SULLIVAN

The baseball season is in full swing, with new stars emerging, such as the Rays' Tyler Glasnow and the White Sox's Tim Anderson, and old stars struggling, such as the Red Sox's Chris Sale and the Indians' Jose Ramirez.

The defending champion Red Sox, Yankees, Cubs and Rockies are underachieving. The San Diego Machados are overachieving. And the games are longer than ever despite rule changes designed to quicken the pace.

As we enter Week 4 of the marathon, here are four questions to ponder:

1. Can the Brewers afford a \$400 million player?

The best bargain in baseball is Brewers outfielder Christian Yelich, who earns \$9.75 million this season after signing a seven-year, \$49.57 million deal with the Marlins in 2015. With a \$15 million club option in 2022, he'll be wearing a Brewers uniform the next four years.

After shocking the baseball world with his National League MVP season in 2018, Yelich is off to another great start. He began Wednesday tied for the National League lead in home runs with nine and leads the majors with 25 RBIs.

Mike Trout's record-setting \$430 million deal last month set the pace, but Yelich could wind up in Mr. Trout's neighborhood if he hits free agency in 2022 and his hometown Dodgers come calling. Or perhaps even — dare we say — the Cubs?

When I recently asked Brewers general manager David Stearns if it was impor-



SETH WENIG/AP

The White Sox's Tim Anderson is having fun this season.

tant to extend Yelich now, he replied: "We've got Christian for four years, so at this point (there's no urgency)."

Ryan Braun's five-year, \$105 million deal runs through next year with a \$15 million mutual option for 2021. So the Brewers will have some economic flexibility after Braun departs, which will be necessary because Yelich's price tag will only go up if he continues to hit like this.

2. What's wrong with Chris Sale?

The previous titleholder of best bargain in baseball was Red Sox left-hander Chris Sale, who relinquished his crown in March by signing a five-year, \$145 million extension.

Now he can't pitch, or at least he can't pitch up to the high standards Sale set for himself in a stellar career with the White Sox and Red Sox.

Sale's fastball was back up to 97 mph Tuesday night against the Yankees, a vast improvement over his first three starts. But he was hit hard in an 8-0 loss, leaving Sale 0-4 with an 8.50 ERA and looking for answers.

"I just flat-out stink right now," Sale said. "I don't know what it is. When you're going good, it's good. When you're

going bad, it's pretty bad."

Right now it's pretty bad. And with Yoan Moncada starting to play up to his potential, the trade that kicked off the White Sox rebuild is starting to look very good for the White Sox. It could look even better if Michael Kopech has a strong comeback season in 2020.

Of course, Sale did help the Red Sox win a ring in 2018 — and he's still Chris Sale.

3. Will the Rays ever convince fans to come out to Tropicana Field?

The Rays are off to the best start in baseball. They have an exciting team, great pitching and one of the game's most outside-the-box thinkers in manager Kevin Cash, the patron saint of the opener — relievers who start games.

They lead the majors with a 2.41 ERA with a staff that's unrecognizable to the average fan, at least outside of Blake Snell.

"We think we're better at finding out what our pitchers do well than what opposing hitters don't do well," Cash said recently before a game at Guaranteed Rate Field.

But they always wind up at or near the bottom in attendance despite playing in the same division as the Yankees and Red Sox, two of the biggest road draws in the majors.

Even their 13-4 start hasn't helped much. The Rays averaged 14,411 per game through Tuesday at Tropicana Field, ranked 28th out of 30 teams. After returning from a 7-2 trip Tuesday against the Orioles, they drew a paltry 9,842.

The usual factors have been cited, including the ugly domed stadium, the long trip in rush-hour traffic from Tampa to St. Petersburg and the area's focus on the Tampa Bay Lightning, who finished the regular season with the NHL's best record.

But now that the Blue

Jackets swept the heavily favored Lightning out of the playoffs in the first round, there are fewer excuses.

4. Can Tim Anderson win a batting title?

The 25-year old White Sox shortstop entered Wednesday's game against the Royals leading the American League with a .421 average.

He's had at least one hit in 12 of his 15 games and seven multihit games. For good measure, Anderson hit a grand slam Sunday at Yankee Stadium while everyone was busy watching Tiger Woods win the Masters.

"Tiger told me to do that," he joked. "We were on the same page."

Anderson hit .240 last season and posted an average of .258 over his first three years on the South Side, so to see this kind of jump is startling, to say the least.

I wouldn't put money on him to beat out Trout or Jose Altuve for the American League batting crown.

But with his newfound confidence and his ability to leg out infield hits, hitting over .300 seems possible, especially if Anderson learns to take a walk now and then. He entered Wednesday with only one in 57 at-bats.

Anderson told reporters Monday he doesn't look at the stats and wasn't aware he was leading the league.

"No, that's for you guys, not me," he said.

It's hard to believe that in this day and age Anderson didn't know he was leading the league. With social media and the internet, it would be hard not to discover that fact just by accident.

"I mean, I know now," he said with a smile. "You guys telling me, all these cameras. I guess that's what comes with it. I'm going to continue to be me. I'm going to keep having fun."

Bet on Tiger win nets more than \$1.2M

A Wisconsin man who claims to have never placed a bet on sports before he risked \$85,000 on Tiger Woods winning the Masters is now more than a million dollars richer.

James Adducci was presented with a check for more than \$1.2 million Monday at a sportsbook in Las Vegas. Adducci's win represents the largest golf payout ever for sportsbook operator William Hill US.

Adducci's reason for betting thousands with 14-1 odds? He said he had a feeling Woods would win because his children were watching.

— Associated Press

LET'S PLAY 2

	Wednesday @Marlins 6:10 p.m. NBCSCH	Friday D'backs 1:20 p.m. NBCSCH
	Wednesday Royals 1:10 p.m. NBCSCH	Thursday @Tigers 12:10 p.m. WGN-9
	Saturday Rapids Noon ESPN+	April 24 @NYCFC 6 p.m. ESPN+

WEDNESDAY ON TV/RADIO

MLB	
3 p.m. Reds at Dodgers	MLBN
5:30 p.m. Red Sox at Yankees	ESPN
6 p.m. Cubs at Marlins	NBCSCH WSCR-AM 670
9 p.m. Astros at A's	MLBN
NBA	
6 p.m. Pacers at Celtics	TNT
7 p.m. Pistons at Bucks	NBA TV
8:30 p.m. Jazz at Rockets	TNT
GOLF	
6 p.m. LOTTE Championship	Golf
NHL	
6 p.m. Bruins at Maple Leafs	NBCSN
7 p.m. Predators at Stars	USA
9 p.m. Flames at Avalanche	NBCSN
COLLEGE LACROSSE	
5 p.m. Princeton at Penn	ESPNU
6 p.m. Maryland at Georgetown	FS1
COLLEGE SOFTBALL	
4:30 p.m. Minnesota at Wisconsin	BTN
6 p.m. Florida at Florida St.	ESPN2
TENNIS	
5 a.m. (Thu.) Monte Carlo Masters	Tennis

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